

A certain number of days determines the life of a caterpillar between its emergence from the egg and the spinning of its cocoon. Many migratory birds are extraordinarily punctual in the dates of their departure, and cannot be tempted to outstay them by however aerial weather. A newly hatched chicken will attach itself to the first creature that comes into its impressions, be it a hen, a dog, or a man; but if it be kept isolated until some days have passed, it will fly in terror from its own mother. Certain sexual affections are periodic in their occurrence: the sexual instinct declines with advancing years. Life is itself an illustration of timing: however cherished, it can endure only for an appointed period.

The liberation of an impulsive instinct is sometimes accompanied by an emotion which brings its action before the observation of consciousness. We are impelled to run from a terrifying object, at the same time we experience an emotion of fear. But there may be impulses without emotion. We are quite unconscious of those which order the functioning of our internal organs, and we are also unconscious of the impulses which underlie such ideo-motor actions as speaking, eating, or walking. These do not affect the brain. Impulses are emotional only when they touch the brain. We are consciously impelled to strike an aggressor: we have a feeling of anger which makes us

aware of the impulse. This statement may appear to invert the order of events according to common judgment the feeling of anger develops before the impulse to strike is. in fact the cause of the latter. But this impression is incorrect. If suddenly attacked we strike out automatically and the emotion of anger does not arise until we